# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# EARTH SCIENCES
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1904
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2016
Scientific Work at RMC
Singh Shri Dushyant

**Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether scientific work is not being conducted efficiently at Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC), Kolkata due to shortage of technical officials;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the shortage of officials during each of the last three years along with the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the details of the surface laboratories (including both operational and nonoperational) established by RMC; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to restart the non-operating units?

## Answer

THE MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) No Madam. The science and knowledge advancement based professional operational work is conducted at Regional Metrological Centre (RMC) Kolkata irrespective of the technical manpower shortage.

During the last 3 years, 19 research papers have been published in Indian and foreign journals by the scientists of RMC, Kolkata.

(b) Year wise details of shortage of officials at the RMC, Kolkata as against the sanctioned strength during last three years are as under:

| Year | Scientific Officials Sanctioned Strength | Men in Position | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2012-13 | 531 | 372 | regular retirement of manpower |
| 2013-14 | 531 | 353 | -do- |
| 2014-15 | 531 | 335 | -do- |

Due to the recently carried out restructuring of Group-B cadre within Earth System Science Organization − India Meteorological Department (ESSO-IMD) the detailed manpower strength at Kolkata will be as per the following:

| Scientists | Scientific Officer -III | Scientific Officer -II | Scientific Officer -I | Assistant Meteorologist -I | Assistant Meteorologist -II | Scientific Assistant |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 44 | 3 | 9 | 24 | 62 | 123 | 286 |

Recently at all India level, induction of 310 Scientific Assistants was made and request for induction of additional 502 Scientific Assistants is placed with the Staff Selection Commission.

(c)-(d) RMC Kolkata has no surface laboratories, but have several surface observatories as per the details given below:

| S. No. | Region | No. of Full time Surface Observatories Established | No. of Full time Surface Observatories Functional | No. of Part time Surface Observatories Established | No. of Part time Surface Observatories Functional |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | West Bengal | 14 | 14 | 13 | 13 |
| 2 | Bihar | 4 | 4 | 8 | 8 |
| 3 | Orissa | 10 | 10 | 12 | 12 |
| 4 | Jharkhand | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 5 | Sikkim | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 6 | Andaman | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |

Regional Instrument Maintenance Centre (RIMC) has been established at Kolkata with two more Field Maintenance Unit (FMU) at Jalpaiguri and Asansol respectively for undertaking observing system sustenance related activities.